

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Higher ed council authorizes \$1M for renovations on old library

Money will upgrade building's interior finishes and repair flood damage

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The state Council on Postsecondary Education has authorized \$1 million worth of renovations to the old Paul Sawyer library in downtown Frankfort.

The council OK'd Kentucky State University's first phase of renovations – financed by a federal historic

preservation grant – during a meeting Friday on campus.

The university will use the \$1 million to upgrade interior finishes and repair flood damage. The facility and a “floating science lab” pontoon boat are slated to open for school and public tours in March.

The building will eventually house KSU's environ-

mental studies program.

The total project could cost between \$3 million and \$4 million, university President Mary Sias told The State Journal last week.

KSU announced in April that it would purchase the building from the city of Frankfort for \$500,000. The building officially changed hands six weeks ago.

State law requires that

CPE review and approve any capital projects that cost \$600,000 or more.

Three projects at the University of Kentucky were also approved Friday, including the \$7 million Wildcat Coal Lodge, a dorm for the men's basketball team that made headlines last week for its controversial name.